

DOCKET NO. 2009-473-WS - ORDER NO. 2010-374

IN RE: Application of Tega Cay Water Service, Inc.) ORDER APPOINTING
for Adjustment of Rates and Charges) HEARING OFFICER

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Commission’s Motion to appoint Joseph M. Melchers, Esquire, to serve as a hearing officer in the present docket regarding Tega Cay Water Service, Inc.’s application for adjustment of rates and charges for the provision of water and sewer service. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-40 (Supp. 2009).

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the Commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years' practice experience.

We find that Joseph M. Melchers meets these qualifications, and we therefore grant the Motion appointing him as hearing officer in this case. As hearing officer in this

proceeding, we direct Mr. Melchers to rule on appropriate matters in the case and dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters for this proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

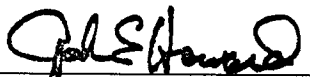
1. Joseph M. Melchers, Esquire, is hereby appointed as hearing officer in Docket No. 2009-473-WS, regarding the application of Tega Cay Water Service, Inc. for adjustment of rates and charges for the provision of water and sewer service, for disposition of procedural and evidentiary matters for this proceeding.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Elizabeth B. Fleming, Chairman

ATTEST:


John E. Howard, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)